

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

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SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512
www.energy.ca.gov

DOCKET 06-SPPE-2
DATE SEP 26 2006
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**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT INITIAL STUDY
FOR IMPERIAL IRRIGATION DISTRICT'S
APPLICATION FOR SMALL POWER PLANT EXEMPTION (06-SPPE-2)
FOR THE EL CENTRO UNIT 3 REPOWER PROJECT**

On May 19, 2006, the Imperial Irrigation District (IID) filed an application for a Small Power Plant Exemption (SPPE). The IID is seeking an exemption from the California Energy Commission's licensing requirements. If an exemption is granted, the applicant would need to secure the appropriate licenses and permits for the project from various local, state and federal agencies.

The Draft Initial Study contains the Energy Commission staff's evaluation of the project, examines the environmental, public health and energy resource aspects of the project, and contains analyses required by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Staff is accepting written public comment on this document until October 23, 2006. Comments may be submitted to the Energy Commission's Project Manager at the address listed below and/or presented at the October 11, 2006, Draft Initial Study Workshop to be noticed separately. After the public workshop, staff expects to issue a Final Initial Study incorporating all timely and relevant comments.

This document is available on the Energy Commission's website (see below). If you would like a copy of the Draft Initial Study, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the California Energy Commission, Attention: Dora Gomez, Project Secretary, at (916) 653-1608 or by email at dgomez@energy.state.ca.us. The document is available as a CD or paper copy.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

IID proposes to replace an existing steam generating unit within the site of the existing El Centro Generating Station (ECGS) located at 485 East Villa Avenue, in El Centro, Imperial County, California. The El Centro Unit 3 Repower Project would be owned and operated by IID. It will continue to serve the growing electrical load demands of the region.

The Unit 3 repower will replace an existing boiler with a General Electric Frame 7EA dry low NO_x combustion turbine generator and a heat recovery steam generator. The generator output from the Unit 3 repower will be stepped up to transmission system voltage and interconnected to the existing IID El Centro Switching Station also located within the ECGS property. Most of the existing Unit 3 plant systems will continue to be used with only minor modifications. The Unit 3 repower will increase the existing Unit 3 generating capacity by 84 megawatts (MW) from 44 MW to 128 MW.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

If you would like information on how you can participate in the Energy Commission's review process for the Unit 3 Repower Project, please contact Ms. Margret J. Kim, the Energy Commission's Public Adviser, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance of the workshop.

Technical or project schedule questions should be directed to Mary Dyas, Energy Commission Project Manager, at (916) 651-8891. The status of the project, copies of notices, the Draft Initial Study and other relevant documents are also available on the Energy Commission's web site at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/elcentro>.

This notice of availability has been mailed to all parties that have requested to be placed on the mailing list during pre-filing, and to property owners located adjacent to the project site and any of the project-related facilities. By being on the mailing list, you will receive notices of all project-related activities and notices when documents related to the project's review are available. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail notification of all notices at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/listservers/index.html>. If you want your name removed from the mailing list, please contact the Project Manager, at the number indicated above.

If you are not currently receiving notices and want to be placed on the mailing list, please contact Mary Dyas, the Energy Commission's Project Manager at (916) 651-8891 or by e-mail to mdyas@energy.state.ca.us.

A copy of the Draft Initial Study document is available for public inspection at the:

El Centro Public Library
539 State Street
El Centro, CA 92243

Calipatria Branch Library
225 W. Main
Calipatria, CA 92233

Copies are also available at the Energy Commission's Library in Sacramento, the California State Library in Sacramento, and at public libraries in Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, and Eureka. In addition, copies would be distributed to those public agencies that would retain jurisdiction if an exemption is granted by the Energy Commission.

DATE

9/29/06



Roger E. Johnson
Energy Facilities Siting and Compliance
Office Manager

Enclosure

**Please send me a copy of the California Energy Commission staff's
Draft Initial Study for the El Centro Unit 3 Repower Project, Small
Power Plant Exemption, 06-SPPE-2**

Please Indicate One Only:

Hard Copy _____

CD _____

Name:	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	

FOLD HERE

California Energy Commission
Attention: Dora Gomez
1516-9th Street, MS-15
Sacramento, CA 95814

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